

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



IN RE APPLICATION OF:

RONALD MICHALSKI

SERIAL NUMBER:

EXAMINER:

FILED:

GROUP ART UNIT:

FOR: LINEAR STAMP APPLICATOR MACHINE  
/ AND METHOD OF OPERATING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

HONORABLE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS & TRADEMARKS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In connection with the above-identified patent application, and the prosecution thereof before the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and in compliance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56, Applicant hereby desires to make of record, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97, the following **PRIOR ART** of which Applicant is aware and which is also listed upon the attached **PTO FORM 1449**:

Davis

4,265,355

Information Disclosure Statement  
**LINEAR STAMP APPLICATOR MACHINE  
AND METHOD OF OPERATING THE SAME**  
Ronald Michalski

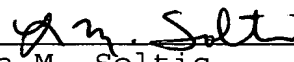
The present invention, in connection with which the present patent application is being prosecuted, is directed toward a linear stamp applicator machine, and a method of operating the same, for applying tax stamps to cigarette packages of different cigarette cartons having different height dimensions, wherein the various operative components of the machine as disposed at the various cigarette carton opening, cigarette package tax stamp application, and cigarette carton closing stations are automatically adjusted by means of a programmable logic controller (PLC) in accordance with height dimension data determined at an upstream height determination station for each cigarette carton being conveyed and processed.

While the cited **PRIOR ART** is relevant to the present invention in that the **PRIOR ART** discloses a conventional tax stamp application machine, it is submitted that such **PRIOR ART** patent publications cited above do not disclose the particular aforementioned features of the present invention, more particularly, the automatic elevational adjustment of the various operative components, and therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the examiner should merely consider such **PRIOR ART** in its proper perspective, make the same officially

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of record, and proceed with completion of the examination of  
this patent application.

Respectfully Submitted,  
**ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS INC.**

  
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